

## Article - Health - General

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§19–308.8.

- (a) A hospital may discharge a patient:
  - (1) Entirely;
  - (2) To another level of care, treatment, or services;
  - (3) To different health professionals; or
  - (4) To settings for continued services.
- (b) A hospital's process for transfer or discharge shall be based on a patient's assessed needs.
- (c) To facilitate discharge or transfer, the hospital shall:
  - (1) Assess a patient's needs;
  - (2) Plan for discharge or transfer;
  - (3) Facilitate the discharge or transfer process;
  - (4) Give the patient or person responsible for providing continuing care to the patient written discharge instructions in a form the patient can understand; and
  - (5) Help to ensure that continuity of care, treatment, and services is maintained.
- (d) If a hospital fails to comply with the requirements of this section, the Secretary may impose a civil money penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each failure to comply.
- (e) A hospital may appeal a civil money penalty imposed under subsection (c) of this section in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

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